

## OFFICE OF LEE COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE PO-BOX G

STEVE MAYS, JR.

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January 8, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: DA 12-1863, IB Docket No. 12-340 RM-11683

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I serve as County Judge-Executive of Lee County, Kentucky, a small rural county in the Appalachian Mountains. Although I have written to the FCC and other Federal agencies in support of the plans of LightSquared on a number of occasions, I have not yet written concerning LightSquared's pending Application. I now write to strongly urge the FCC to grant LightSquared's pending License Modification Application, so that LightSquared may move forward with its plans.

In the mountains of Kentucky, we got a wake up call last spring when tornadoes roared through Morgan County and other counties in Eastern Kentucky. I was lucky in the sense that the tornadoes did not strike my home county, but surrounding counties were hard hit, and by providing satellite telephones and other communications equipment, LightSquared significantly aided the relief efforts, which are still ongoing. I have read that, during the recent Hurricane Sandy natural disaster that LightSquared also provided satellite phones to these first responders as well. This impresses me, because it shows that LightSquared is a good corporate citizen and willing to assist local governments in time of crisis.

Our county has been badly hindered in its economic development by the lack of a good communications infrastructure. The mountainous terrain is simply too rough to effectively cover with terrestrial towers alone, and the cell phone service here, where it exists at all is weak and spotty.

Hundreds of millions of Americans, and particularly those that live in rural Kentucky would benefit greatly from LightSquared's network.

This is too important an issue to allow to be sidetracked by regulatory hurdles and bandwidth politics. Kentucky needs the benefit of LightSquared's system, and I urge the FCC to approve LightSquared's pending application. Thank you for allowing me to share my opinion, and that of my constituents, on this important issue.

Very truly yours,

Yon. Steve Mays,

Lee County Judge Executive